Chapter 158: Shadows as Divine Protection

The worshippers of Sung Jin-Woo, the God of Shadows and Life, were granted extraordinary protection in recognition of their unwavering faith. These blessings came in the form of materialized shadows, drawn from the centillions of shadows Sung Jin-Woo had created to serve as his loyal guardians.

Divine Shadow Guardians

Each worshipper received between one and ten shadows based on their level of devotion and their role in the system:

1. Strength and Rank

Each shadow guardian was equivalent in power to an S^{9}-Rank to S^{99}-Rank Hunter, far surpassing Earth's most powerful hunters (S^{7}-Rank).

The shadows were capable of annihilating vast armies or defending entire realms single-handedly.

2. Shadow Armies

Every shadow was accompanied by a personal army of at least one million shadow soldiers, ready to be summoned at a moment’s notice.

These armies were fully autonomous yet eternally loyal to their master and Sung Jin-Woo.

3. Planetary Defense Capabilities

A single shadow guardian could protect an entire planet, using its immense power and shadow armies to fend off invasions, natural disasters, or other threats.

Distribution of Shadows

The allocation of shadows was determined by several factors:

1. Role in the System

High-ranking monks and priests of the Temples of Shadows and Life received more shadows to safeguard their temples and devotees.

Ordinary worshippers received fewer shadows but still benefited from unmatched protection.

2. Faith and Devotion

The most devout followers, those who actively contributed to spreading Sung Jin-Woo's worship, were rewarded with additional shadows.

3. Need for Protection

Worshippers in perilous regions or involved in critical missions were prioritized for shadow assignments.

Abilities of the Shadows

The shadows granted to worshippers were imbued with a portion of Sung Jin-Woo’s divine power:

1. Shadow World

Each shadow possessed its own shadow world, where it could retreat and regroup if overwhelmed.

The shadow world also served as a prison for enemies or a sanctuary for allies.

2. Astral Expansion and Shrinking

The shadows could shrink into invisibility or expand to colossal sizes, adapting to any battlefield.

3. Advanced Weaponry

Equipped with mana guns, rifles, and divine blades, the shadows were formidable in both ranged and melee combat.

4. Planetary-Scale Awareness

Each shadow had the ability to monitor and sense activity across an entire planet, ensuring no threat went unnoticed.

Impact on Worshippers

The presence of these shadows transformed Sung Jin-Woo’s worshippers into a formidable collective:

Unparalleled Protection: No harm could befall the worshippers under the shadows’ vigilant guard.

Spread of Faith: The undeniable power of the shadows inspired others to join the faith, leading to the rapid expansion of the Temples of Shadows and Life.

Interplanetary Influence: Worshippers were emboldened to venture into new realms, secure in the knowledge that their shadows could protect them.

Through this divine gift, Sung Jin-Woo’s faith grew stronger, cementing his role as a God of unmatched power and compassion in the multiverse.